

**I ILLINOIS**

Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER  
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Knox County

4-H Hilite

May 2020

To Make the Best  
**BETTER**



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**Monday Through Friday**  
**8 am — Noon**  
**1 pm — 4:30 pm**

[extension.illinois.edu/hkmw](https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw)

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**Dear 4-H Families and Friends,**

What a unique time to be in 4-H. The impact of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) continues to create uncertainty and concern both globally and here in our community. University of Illinois Extension has released updated guidelines for Extension sponsored events and activities, including summer 4-H general shows and livestock exhibitions. The new guidelines continue to focus on managing the safety of event participants and the communities where these events take place. Our updated event policy follows guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and University of Illinois.

All in-person events sponsored by Illinois Extension through July 5 have been canceled or transitioned to an online delivery format. **4-H shows scheduled from now through July 5 have been transitioned to online virtual showing.** For programs scheduled for July 6 and after, an updated announcement will be provided if or when conditions change and as state officials and Illinois Department of Public Health provide new guidance. Decisions about events beyond July 6 will be publicly communicated by the first day of the month before.

Follow your county 4-H Facebook page and continue to check your email listed in 4-H Online for the latest updates about 4-H.

Your fairbook can be found on our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county>. Scroll to the bottom of the page and look under the "Fairs and Shows" tab. Consider this book your guide to a successful 4-H fair. If we need to make any changes or updates, you will find them in your newsletter.

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson

**I PLEDGE...MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING**

# Current Fair Information

## Entry deadlines approaching

The deadline to enter the Illinois State Fair Junior Horse Show has been extended to June 20. The deadline to enter the Illinois State Fair Junior Livestock Show is also extended to July 15. The show is open to current Illinois 4-H and FFA members. 4-H membership is 8 to 18, thus youth who were 19 and older on Sept. 1, 2019 and too old for 4-H can only enter as FFA alumni.

### Update: June 1 is horse ownership/lease papers due date

**At this time, we are moving the horse ownership/lease paper due date. June 1 is the deadline** to file horse ownership/lease papers with the local Extension office. In addition to the ownership/lease papers, a photo of each side of the animals is required. We strongly encourage members who own or lease more than one horse to file paperwork on ALL potential exhibit horses by the deadline. If a horse is injured or dies, it may be replaced **ONLY** by a horse whose paperwork is already on file by the deadline. A horse may only be owned or leased to and exhibited by ONE 4-H or FFA member at the State Fair Junior Horse Show. Download the form @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/horse> . You may email these forms to [nenelso2@illinois.edu](mailto:nenelso2@illinois.edu) or put them in the office dropbox.

## See You at the Fair-Policy Update

We can't wait to see you and your projects at the fair! Remember the policies that effect showing at the fair. You had to re-enroll in 4-H by December 1. You needed to enroll in all livestock projects by January 1 and general show projects by March 1. **For this year only, you must attend at least 1 meeting** and give a talk or demonstration (club rules may vary). Talks and demonstrations will have to look a bit different as we practice social distancing. Talk to your club leader for ideas.

## Look for These Changes at the Illinois State Fair

- Exhibits must be in place by 9:30 AM and remain on display **until 4 PM.** (new release time)
- The awards will include **Champion Medals** for the highest score in each project class and **Reserve Medals** for the second highest score in each class. Cash premiums from the state will be paid to the medal winners. **Innovation Awards** will be given to exhibits judges find inspiring, innovative, or creative and are not based on scores. Medal winners cannot receive the innovation award in 2020.
- **New projects** at the state fair include: Child Development, Leather, Sports Nutrition, Family Heritage, and Shooting Sports
- The **State 4-H Public Speaking Contest** will be held at the same time as the state fair. Youth can compete in a speech and also bring a project to the General Project Show. Youth must be selected in their county contest to advance and will speak the same day as their county exhibit day.
- **Ewe lambs** are now eligible for the premier show.
- The **junior poultry show** begins Monday, Aug. 17.
- The **State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest** will be held at the state fair on Monday, Aug. 17.
- The **junior rabbit show** begins August 17.
- Check out all the livestock ownership deadlines online @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock](http://go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock).
- The office will not have extra admission tickets for the state fair this year. Please plan accordingly.

## Note on State Fair Tickets

The Extension Office will not have discounted State Fair tickets available for purchase this year. We want you to be flexible to invite anyone to State Fair without the worry of having to buy a ticket. The Sunday price is already reduced and advance tickets would not provide an additional value to families. Hope to see you at our day at State Fair on **Sunday, August 16!**

## Foundation Hall of Fame ceremony set

The Illinois 4-H Foundation will honor one volunteer leader from each county at a ceremony during the Illinois State Fair. The celebration begins at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 as part of Ag Day at the fair right before the Sale of Champions activities begin. Supporters and families of the recipients are welcome to attend.

## Important Dates for 2020 Illinois State Fair Junior Show

Active 4-H members who are 8 to 18 years of age (9/1/19) are eligible to exhibit in the Illinois State Fair Junior Show. Youth older than 18 may exhibit if active FFA alumni. Below is the tentative schedule for the junior livestock show. Check the Illinois State Fair website for any updates.

### ARRIVAL TIMES

- **BEEF:** Performance Cow/Calf must be in place by noon on 8/11
- **BEEF:** Heifers must be in place by noon on 8/11
- **BEEF:** Steers must be in place by 8 PM on 8/11
- **DAIRY:** must be in place by 5 PM on 8/18
- **GOATS:** Meat Goats must be in place by noon on 8/12
- **GOATS:** Dairy Goats must be in place by 8 AM on 8/16
- **GOATS:** Pygmy Goats must be in place by 11 AM on 8/21
- **SHEEP:** Market Lambs must be in place by 8 PM on 8/13
- **SHEEP:** Breeding Sheep must be in place by 9 PM on 8/15
- **SWINE:** Gilts must be in place by 8 AM on 8/12
- **SWINE:** Barrows must be in place by 8 AM on 8/13
- **POULTRY:** must be in place by 9 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** Meat pens must be in place by 9 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** All others must be in place by 3 PM on 8/21

### SHOW TIMES

- **SUPERIOR YOUNG PRODUCER CONTEST BEEF/SHEEP/SWINE:** 7 PM on 8/12
- **SUPERIOR YOUNG PRODUCER CONTEST DAIRY:** 8:30 AM on 8/22
- **MASTER SHOWMANSHIP:** 7:30 PM on 8/14
- **BEEF:** Showmanship: 1 PM on 8/12
- **BEEF:** Performance Cow/Calf: 8:30 AM on 8/13
- **BEEF:** Heifers: AOB, Charolais, Chianina, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Maine Anjou, Maintainer: Time TBA on 8/13
- **BEEF:** Heifers: Angus (at 8:30 AM), Limousin, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Simmental, %Simmental: on 8/14 (other breed times TBA)
- **BEEF:** Steers: 8:30 AM on 8/15
- **DAIRY:** Brown Swiss: 9 AM on 8/19
- **DAIRY:** Holstein: 1 PM on 8/19
- **DAIRY:** Guernsey: 9 AM on 8/20
- **DAIRY:** Ayrshire: 1 PM on 8/20
- **DAIRY:** Milking Shorthorns: 9 AM on 8/21
- **DAIRY:** Jersey: 1 PM on 8/21
- **GOATS:** Breeding Meat Goats: 8 AM on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Wether Meat Goats: after breeding show on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Market Meat Does: after wether show on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Dairy Goats: 9 AM on 8/16
- **GOATS:** Pygmy Goats: 8:30 AM on 8/22
- **SHEEP:** Market Lambs: 8 AM on 8/15
- **SHEEP:** Breeding Sheep: 8 AM on 8/17
- **SWINE:** Showmanship: 5 PM on 8/13
- **SWINE:** Gilts: 7:30 AM on 8/14
- **SWINE:** Barrows: 7:30 AM on 8/15
- **POULTRY:** 10 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** Meat Pens 10 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** All Others 9 AM on 8/22

### RELEASE TIMES

- **BEEF CATTLE:** released after 5 PM (or after all steer classes have shown) on 8/15
- **DAIRY CATTLE:** released after 4 PM on 8/22
- **MEAT GOATS:** released after the meat goat show on 8/14
- **DAIRY GOATS:** released after the dairy goat show on 8/16
- **PYGMY GOATS:** released after the pygmy goat show on 8/22
- **MARKET SHEEP:** released after the market show on 8/15
- **BREEDING SHEEP:** released after the breeding show on 8/17
- **SWINE:** released after the barrow show on 8/15
- **POULTRY:** released after the poultry show on 8/17
- **MEAT PEN RABBITS:** release after the show on 8/17
- **ALL OTHER RABBITS:** release 8/23

## Keeping in Touch While Keeping Your Distance

Social distancing can cause feelings of isolation when you halt your normal daily routine and seclude yourself from others. To help with this, why not make use of your time at home and start on your “someday” projects?

- **Organize** family pictures. Get the family involved and go through them together. Photos are wonderful triggers for reminiscing about life events and sharing family stories.
- **Declutter** your closets and junk drawers. Sort and Pitch. Have a decluttering party or cleaning competition!
- **Read** for pleasure. Set aside a time each day to read as a family.
- **Get moving** and get outdoors. Take a walk in your yard and notice nature.
- **Reach out to your friends and family** through phone calls, texts, emails, and social media. Bring back the art of letter writing.

Social distancing is a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of disease, but it can also be a gift of time. For more ideas on how to stay busy at home, what you can do in your garden, healthy eating and general wellbeing during this time check out the University of Illinois Extensions Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/UIExtension/>

## Beat the stay at home Boredom

Check out the Livestock E Quiz. Choose between 3 different levels (Elementary, High School, and College) in any livestock species. <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/equiz/>

Become a Heart Hunter! Join the thousands of families across the nation by decorating your window(s) with hearts and then go “Heart Hunting” when you go for a family walk around your neighborhood or on your way to the grocery store.

Discover a new recipe, learn how to read food labels, get moving and save money at University of Illinois Extension’s Eat, Move, Save website <https://eat-move-save.extension.illinois.edu/eat>

## New Statewide Leadership Opportunity: Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Team

The Illinois 4-H State Office is pleased to announce the launch of a new statewide leadership opportunity for Illinois youth seeking to improve food security and food access in their community. The Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy team is a group of teens and young adults from across the state of Illinois who are recognized for their dynamic leadership and who want to increase their impact on the future of food in Illinois. Team members will influence the annual Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit event and provide support for Food Systems programming in Illinois. You will also be eligible for state and nationwide opportunities.

If you're looking for a way to serve your community while strengthening your leadership, communication and advocacy skills, this is the next step for you. Applications, along with one professional reference, are due to the Illinois State 4-H Office by Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. For more information please contact Mark Becker ([mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu)), Illinois 4-H Food Systems Specialist.

**Application Link:** <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamApplication>

**Professional Reference Link:** <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamReference>

## NEW: 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer Certification Field-Day Training Date:

- **Northern Illinois: Saturday, Sept. 12** at Torstenson Youth Education Center, Pecatonica, IL. Register between July 1 - September 2.

The Illinois 4-H program needs adults willing to serve as mentors and share their passion of shooting sports. Here’s what you need to do:

- Contact your local Extension office and complete the required forms and background checks. Most Extension offices cover training fees with 2 year commitment from volunteers. Your local Extension staff will complete your registration.
- Complete a 3-hour online training module at home.
- Attend a 9-hour hands-on field day which runs from 9 AM to 7 PM.

## NEW: 4-H State Scholarship Opportunities

The Illinois 4-H Awards program will be expanding for the 2019-2020 program year! We will be offering five \$1,000 scholarships in each of our program areas. More information, applications and training video will be released prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>. The applications will be due November 1<sup>st</sup>. We thank our generous donors and the Illinois 4-H Foundation for providing this opportunity for our members!

## Superior Young Producer Scholarship Program,

This is offered by the Illinois State Fair to 4-H members in Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy, and Horses as an educational activity at the Illinois State Fair to promote youth development and personal growth. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in horses and three \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in dairy. A total of nine \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in a combined contest for beef, sheep, and swine contestants.



**The 4-H Everyday Sportsman's Skills Challenge** is currently underway and runs continuously until July 15, 2020. Interested 4-H Members are presented with three sportsman's skills at a time which they learn by viewing suggested videos. Once they've mastered the skills, they contact their 4-H leader or 4-H staff person to communicate what they've learned. Each skill level mastered gets the 4-H member entered into a drawing for a high quality multi-tool sponsored by Illinois Pheasants Forever. Click here for details: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-everyday-sportsmans-skills-challenge>

## Collecting Food Access Stories

The Illinois 4-H State Office is putting a call out for stories that highlight the creative, innovative, and inspiring work that 4-H youth are doing to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. If you have a young person or a club in your area that is going out of their way to create greater food security and food access through service learning projects, advocacy, social media campaigns, or community service, we want to hear about them and help their work get highlighted by the U of I College of ACES Extension communication team. Please send a brief description of their project, a contact, and a photograph (where possible) of their work to [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu). Thank you for all the important work you're doing to support our young people.

## We're Looking for New Members!

You see them at state 4-H events in their bright green shirts. Now YOU can become an Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team member.



**YLT**

Illinois State 4-H  
Youth Leadership Team

**Eligibility:** Age 16 to 19 by September 1, 2020.

**Length of service:** Two years

**Apply online:** [go.illinois.edu/4HYLT](https://go.illinois.edu/4HYLT). Look for the "application" at the bottom of the page.

**Deadline:** June 1, 2020

The State Youth Leadership Team plans and implements the state Jr. Leadership Conference, plans and teaches the Speaking for Illinois 4-H program, and assists (behind the scenes and in front of the audience) for many other statewide events. Team members have the opportunity to serve on statewide planning committees and advisory groups, including the Illinois 4-H Foundation Board of Directors, Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee, Illini Summer Academies planning committee, and Teen Leadership Conference planning committee. Members also have the first opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. each spring.

## 4-H Maker Monday Series

Maker Mondays is a YouTube Segment featuring the Illinois 4-H STEM Team, that guides youth through the process of designing, fabricating, and finishing anything we can think of, from cosplay inspired outfits, to custom themed drones and gadgets. These videos are designed to inspire and encourage youth to expand their imaginations, and build/make whatever they can think of. Our videos are not meant to transform youth into content experts, but rather into process experts with the tools and skills needed to find the answers to questions they have. Every video lists the materials and tools needed, and many videos will have accompanying downloads. In our first video, we make Mandalorian Armor from scratch using basic tools and a 3D printer! Click the link below to view: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7hhXcl-6fQ&feature=youtu.be>

## 4-H COVID Idea Challenge

5 finalists will be selected and pitch their idea to a panel of content experts as well as Maker and rapid prototyping experts, live streamed on Saturday, May 30 (link available the week of event). We will provide one person or collaborative team \$1000 in resources, and guidance to aid in the rapid prototyping of your idea. Additionally, if the idea qualifies, we will aid the winning person/team in sharing their idea to virtual platforms like the National Institute of Health's 3D Print Exchange (if 3D Printable), as well as other open source COVID 19 solutions platforms both locally and nationally. This is a timely opportunity to showcase the inner Maker in our youth, with the potential to impact their communities. Go to: [go.illinois.edu/covididea](http://go.illinois.edu/covididea) for details Please feel free to share this email with those you think would be potentially interested. Thanks, and [Subscribe to our channel](#) if you enjoyed our content!

## Local Updates

### Fair Interns

4-H members have a great story to tell and we are looking for someone to tell it at a 4-H Fair Intern. 4-H Fair Social Media Interns will assist Extension staff in keeping social media updated, take pictures, design graphics, and write stories during the 4-H fair. For more details and to **Apply by June 1**, visit <https://go.illinois.edu/FairIntern>.

### Federation Meetings

The Knox County 4-H Federation Board would like to welcome you to their next meeting happening May 17 @ 7:30 PM via Google Meet. Member and Club input is crucial to help decide what events and contests the board will hold for the 2019-2020 year! Everyone is invited to attend. Please contact Nicole Nelson if you would like the information to join the meeting.

*You are invited*

### Federation Applications

Want to apply to be part of the board? Fill out the application by May 29 and email to [nenelso2@illinois.edu](mailto:nenelso2@illinois.edu)! You can find the application under "Resources" on our webpage <https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county>

## Farmer's Forecast

Please submit all Farmer's Forecast articles and JPG photos to [nenelso2@illinois.edu](mailto:nenelso2@illinois.edu). Articles are due no later than the 26th of the month at 11:59 PM. Need Ideas about what to write? Just ask!

**June:** Willing Workers  
**July:** Backcountry Braves

**August:** Bracken Busy Bees  
**September:** Cameron Kids  
**October:** Delong Livestock

**November:** Hague Hustlers  
**December:** Happy Hustlers

## Club Reports

**Club Report Submissions are due by the 26th of each month by 11:59 PM to Nicole, [nenelso2@illinois.edu](mailto:nenelso2@illinois.edu)**  
**Please keep your submissions to a maximum of 200 words to ensure space for all club reports.**

**Delong Livestock Report by Cora Buchanan** The Delong Livestock meeting started at 6:00 PM. Roll was called. Old business was discussed. Treasurer's Report was read. Dalton Engel motioned to approve the treasurer's report, Jack Link seconded. New business was discussed. Kit Hopkins read the Highlight. The talks were: Will Shreeves who did, "What to feed your heifer," Aubrey Beardsley did a talk on, "How to start your garden," William Carlson did a talk/demo on "Corn." Evan Link did a talk on "Boer Goat Industries." Kellyn Buchanan did a talk on "Sewing supplies." The next meeting will be on June 14, 2020 at 1:00 PM with a farm tour. Evan Link motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dylan Nimrick seconded.

**Federation Report by Paige Nimrick** The Knox County 4-H Federation board held its April meeting on April 19, 2020, on a Zoom call. The meeting was called to order at 6 pm. The Federation Board discussed the upcoming events that have been canceled due to Covid-19. As of right now, no events can be held until May 1, 2020. Federation discussed holding the fairground cleanup later in the year but no decision was made. The True Leaders in Service will be a social media campaign, members will be recognized for service projects, working on their 4-H projects, and participating in the heart hunter activities. Share the fun was briefly discussed, it may be rescheduled but there has been no final decision. National Volunteer Week is April 19-25, the Federation Board will post on social media and send thank you cards to club leaders. To encourage members to continue working on their projects, we will be starting a workshop series on YouTube. The Federation Board made a donation to Angie Kaney to make 125 masks. The next meeting will be held as a Zoom call on May 17, 2020, at 6 pm.

## 4-H Event Update

- May 9 ~ State Robotics Challenge - Canceled
- May 30 ~ Warren County Livestock Judging Contest - Canceled
- June 1 ~ State Fair Junior Horse Entry Forms - **Postponed to June 20**
- June 1 ~ Dog & Horse Lease & Ownership Papers due to **office or nenelso2@illinois.edu scans accepted this year**
- June 8 ~ Deadline for Fair Entry in 4-H Fair - **Postponed - Will be open June 5—July 3**
- June 13—Family Fun Day & Reunion—Postponed until further notice
- June 15 ~ State Livestock Judging Contest - **Postponed new date TBD**
- July 1 ~ State Fair Livestock Junior Show Entry Forms - **Postponed to July 15**

## Mark Your Calendar With 2020 Dates

June 1	Dog & Horse Lease & Ownership Papers due
June 5	FairEntry will open
June 10	Sheep, Goat, & Swine Nomination Form deadline
June 20	State Fair Junior Horse Entry Forms Deadline
July 3	Deadline to Enroll in Fair Entry to show at the 4-H Fair
July 11	Knox County 4-H General, Clothing, & Public Presentations Shows
July 12-14	Knox County 4-H Livestock Shows
July 15	State Fair Livestock Junior Show Entry Forms Deadline
July 18	Knox County 4-H Dog Show
July 19	Knox County 4-H Horse Show
July 27-August 2	State Fair Junior Horse Show
August 16	Our day at the State Fair



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